

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a master control component to maintain a master timeline for a multimedia presentation; and

a plurality of individual stream controls corresponding to individual data streams for the multimedia presentation, wherein each of the plurality of individual stream controls is to maintain a timeline for the corresponding individual data stream and wherein the individual stream controls determine when the master timeline is modified by the master control so that the individual stream controls can modify the individual data streams to accommodate the modified master timeline.

25. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 24, wherein the master control component is also to receive a user request for a new playback speed and communicate the new playback speed to the plurality of individual stream controls.

26. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 25, wherein the master control component is to communicate the new playback speed to the plurality of individual stream controls by sending a message to each of the plurality of individual stream controls.

27. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 24, wherein each of the plurality of individual stream controls is to monitor the master timeline and adjust the timeline maintained by each such stream control to maintain synchronization with the master timeline.

28. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 24, wherein the individual data streams include one or more of an image stream, a text stream, and an animation stream.

29-57. (Cancelled)

58. (New) A method in a network client for synchronizing streams of a multimedia presentation, the streams located at one or more network servers, the method comprising:

maintaining a presentation timeline using a master control;
receiving the streams, each stream having a slave control;
detecting an event that causes a change in the presentation timeline;
modifying the master control's presentation timeline in response to the event; and
notifying each slave control that the presentation timeline has been modified, so that
the slave controls can alter their streams to accommodate the modified presentation timeline.

59. (New) The method recited in claim 58, wherein the event is a decrease in the available bandwidth from one or more of the servers to the client.

60. (New) The method recited in claim 58, wherein the event is an increase in the available bandwidth from one or more of the servers to the client.

61. (New) The method recited in claim 58, wherein the event is a change in the speed of playback selected by a user viewing the presentation.

62. (New) The method recited in claim 58 wherein the modifying of the master control's presentation timeline further comprises selecting particular streams for alteration.

63. (New) The method recited in claim 62 wherein the selecting of particular streams is performed using a priority ranking provided to the master control.

64. (New) The method recited in claim 62 wherein the selecting of particular streams is performed using a user-supplied ordered list provided to the master control.

65. (New) The method recited in claim 58 wherein the altering of a stream by a slave control is selected from the group consisting of jumping ahead in the stream, pausing the stream, and time-scale modification of the stream.

66. (New) The method recited in claim 58 wherein the event is generated by the user choosing the manner of change to the presentation timeline.

67. (New) The method recited in claim 58 wherein the individual streams include one or more of an image stream, a text stream, and an animation stream.

68. (New) The method recited in claim 58 wherein the slave controls are located at the network servers.

69. (New) The method recited in claim 58 wherein the slave controls are located at the network client.

70. (New) The method recited in claim 58 wherein multiple slave controls are located at the same network server.

71. (New) The method recited in claim 58 wherein the streams are received from different servers.

72. (New) A computer-readable medium whose contents cause a computing system to perform a method in a network client for synchronizing streams of the method comprising:

maintaining a presentation timeline using a master control;
receiving the streams, each stream having a slave control;
detecting an event that causes a change in the presentation timeline; and
modifying the master control's presentation timeline in response to the event;
wherein the master control notifies the slave controls that the presentation timeline has been modified so that the slave controls can alter their streams to accommodate the modified presentation timeline.

73. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72, wherein the event is a decrease in the available bandwidth from one or more of the servers to the client.

74. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72, wherein the event is an increase in the available bandwidth from one or more of the servers to the client.

75. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72, wherein the event is a change in the speed of playback selected by a user viewing the presentation.

76. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72 wherein the modifying of the master control's presentation timeline further comprises selecting particular streams for alteration.

77. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 76 wherein the selecting of particular streams is performed using a priority ranking provided to the master control.

78. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 76 wherein the selecting of particular streams is performed using a user-supplied ordered list provided to the master control.

79. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72 wherein the altering of a stream by a slave control is selected from the group consisting of jumping ahead in the stream, pausing the stream, and time-scale modification of the stream.

80. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72 wherein the event is generated when a user indicates how to change the presentation timeline.

81. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72 wherein the individual streams include one or more of an image stream, a text stream, and an animation stream.

82. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72 wherein the slave controls are located at network servers.

83. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72 wherein the slave controls are located at the network client.

84. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72 wherein multiple slave controls are located at the same network server.

85. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 72 wherein the streams are received from different servers.

86. (New) A system for synchronizing streams of a presentation comprising:
a master control component located at a network client for maintaining a presentation timeline;

a first slave control component located at a first network server for controlling a stream being transmitted by the first network server; and
a second slave control component located at a second network server for controlling a stream being transmitted by the second network server;

wherein the master control detects an event that causes a change in the presentation timeline, modifies the presentation timeline in response to the event, and notifies the slave controls that the presentation timeline has been modified so that the slave controls can alter their streams to accommodate the modified presentation timeline.

87. (New) The system of claim 86, wherein the event is a decrease in the available bandwidth from one or more of the servers to the client.

88. (New) The system of claim 86, wherein the event is an increase in the available bandwidth from one or more of the servers to the client.

89. (New) The system of claim 86, wherein the event is a change in the speed of playback selected by a user viewing the presentation.

90. (New) The system of claim 86 wherein the modifying of the master control's presentation timeline further comprises selecting particular streams for alteration.

91. (New) The system of claim 90 wherein the selecting of particular streams is performed using a priority ranking provided to the master control.

92. (New) The system of claim 90 wherein the selecting of particular streams is performed using a user-supplied ordered list provided to the master control.

93. (New) The system of claim 86 wherein the altering of the stream is selected from the group consisting of jumping ahead in the stream, pausing the stream, and time-scale modification of the stream.